



Be informed about the Indiana Department of Correction

Weekly Views

From the Office of J. David Donahue, Commissioner

"What we call the beginning is often the end. And to make an end is to make a beginning. The end is where we start from." ~ T.S. Eliot

Friday, August 1, 2008

Putnamville Correctional Facility held a dedication ceremony for the newly completed wind turbine and in honor of deceased Director of Contract Compliance, Larry Lazart. Guests were addressed by Commissioner Donahue, Johnson Control's David Peters, Paul Cummings of the Indiana Office of Energy and Defense Development, and Larry's brother, Mark Lazart.

State Representative F. Dale Grubb visited Rockville Correctional Facility to speak to students who had completed their GED or a Vocational Program, and he presented each of the graduates with an Indiana House of Representatives certificate.

Westville Correctional Facility's Vocational Horticultural Class was recognized by the Save the Dunes project for its contribution in helping control the invasive Purple Loosestrife plant that clogs the dunes' wetlands. The class used the retrieved plants by allowing beetles to hatch onto them and replanting the plants around the city to conserve the beetle population.

Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility held a graduation service for 12 offenders who earned their GEDs and 1 offender who earned his high school diploma. There were 24 guests and family members who attended the ceremonies.

Plainfield Correctional Facility recently held its 2nd PLUS graduation for 12 offenders. Isaac Randolph, Executive Director of the Office of Faith Based & Community Initiatives, gave the keynote address to staff, family members, and volunteers.

Michael Hale of Kokomo was promoted to Major of the Miami Correctional Facility. Hale has worked at MCF since March 1999 and was among the first 30 custody staff hired.

Parole agents and supervisors at Parole District #3 conducted 4 sweeps during the month of July, which were all carried out in collaboration with the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department in an effort to address the recent rise in violence.

Branchville Correctional Facility staff and offenders raised over \$2330 for the Make a Smile Campaign. This money will be used to build playgrounds near correctional facilities devastated by Hurricane Katrina.

Plainfield Correctional Facility held its 1st GRIP graduation for 69 offenders. Over 30 staff and family members attended the graduation ceremony.

The Indiana Women's Prison recently held The Inside – Out Prison Exchange Program Closing Ceremony. The program began in May 2008 with 12 outside (IUPUI) and 12 inside (IWP) students exploring the topic of "Women and Social Action."

Miami Correctional Facility's INShape Committee hosted a softball game between custody brackets and non-custody recently. Members of the I-Bracket won the overall tournament defeating the K-Bracket and non-custody staff in two different games.

Correctional Industrial Facility hosted its 4th Family Worship service in conjunction with PREP (Preventative Relationship Enhancement Program). This is the first time the Family Worship Program has been a part of the PREP weekend at CIF.

The Wabash Valley Inside Out Dads Program donated \$1,000 to the Terre Haute Children's Museum Building Fund.

The Indiana Women's Prison Sheltered Workshop made and donated over 140 quilted, crocheted, and sewn items to the Julian Center for Women and Children. Also, over 2,000 items donated to the facility are to help the victims of domestic violence.

The Plainfield Re-Entry Educational Facility hosted its third Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program (PREP).

Governor Daniels observed K-9 demonstrations and posed for pictures with K-9 members from the Putnamville Correctional Facility at the Putnam County Fair. The facility's K-9 Unit also received accolades from the president of the International Police Work Dog Association (L.P.W.D.A.) for services rendered.

PLUS participants at Wabash Valley donated 14 quilts to the Shalom Center for the homeless of Bloomington, Indiana. JoAnn Fabrics and the Bloomington Unitarian Universalist Church provided materials and funding to make the project possible.

10 offenders from the Pendleton Correctional Facility Level One outside Dorm were selected for an off-grounds work crew to work on a 3-day demolition project at Fort Harrison State Park. The crew is helping prepare a park building for remodeling.